

For Sale.

MacEwen, FRICKEL & Co.

HAVE RECEIVED FOR SALE.

CHRISTMAS STORES AND NEW AND SEASONABLE GOODS.

EX FRENCH MAIL STEAMER.

MUSCATEL RAISINS.

METZ FRUIT.

ASSORTED COCAQUES.

CALLARD & BOWSER'S CONFECTIONERY.

BUTTER SCOTCH.

HONEY SCOTCH.

ROSE TOFFEE.

LEMON TOFFEE.

ROSE'S LIME JUICE CORDIAL.

PLUM PUDDINGS.

PATRAS CURRANTS.

VALENTIA RAISINS.

MACKINNON PEN.

LIVERMORE PEN.

LAWN TENNIS RATS.

LAWN TENNIS BALLS.

LAWN TENNIS SHOES.

Ex Steamer "Olefinus."

STILTON CHEESE.

YORK HAMS.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.

TAYSON'S DESSERT FRUITS.

ALMONDS AND RAISINS.

SMYRNA FIGS.

PUNION TONGUES.

FILBERTS.

COCOATINA.

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.

LION'S & RICH'S COCOA.

FRENCH PLUMS.

HUNTLEY & PALMER'S BISCUITS.

PATE DE FOIE GRAS.

MINCENNET.

CHOCOLATE-MENIER.

SAUSAGES.

BRAWN.

ISIGNY BUTTER.

DANISH BUTTER.

BREAKFAST TONGUES.

ANGHOVIES.

ASPARAGUS.

SOUPS, &c.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

CHAMPAGNES.

HENDERSON'S MONOPOL & WHITE SEAL.

VEUVE CLICQUOT BONSARDIN.

JULES MUMM & Co., pils & quarts.

CLARETS.

CHATEAU LA ROSSE, pils & quarts.

CHATEAU LAFFITE, " " "

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Mails.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MALTA, GIBRALTAR, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for BATAVIA, PEKAN, and other ports, on TUESDAY, the 21st February, 1882, at 4 p.m. Cargo will be received on board until 10 a.m. on the day of departure. Parcels and Specie (Gold) at the Office until 10 a.m. on the day of departure. Silk and Valuable Goods will be unpacked at Point de Galle, but Tea and General Cargo at Bombay, arriving one week later than by the direct route via Galle. For further Particulars, regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE, apply to the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, Ltd., 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4. Passengers to England are now booked to London, instead of Southampton, as heretofore. A. McIVER, Superintendant, Hongkong, February 9, 1882. fe21

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMAILIA, PORT SAID, SYRIAN PORTS, NAPLES, MARSEILLES, AND PORTS OF BRAZIL, AND LA PLATA; PONDICHERY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND ALL INDIAN PORTS.

ON MONDAY, the 27th of February, 1882, at Noon, the Company's S.S. *JAOUADY*, Commandant PASQUALE, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places. Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe. Shipping Orders will be granted until Noon of 26th February. Cargo will be received on board until 4 p.m. Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m. on the 26th February, 1882. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are required. For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office. G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent, Hongkong, February 15, 1882. fe27

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND THROUGH AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship *CITY OF TOKIO* will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st March, 1882, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers, and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe. Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to Atlantic and Inland Cities of the United States, via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers. Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers. On prepaid RETURN PASSAGE TICKETS a reduction of 25% is made. Freight will be received on board until 4 p.m. on the 28th instant. Parcels/Packages will be received at the office until 5 p.m., same day; all Parcels/Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required. Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo should be sent to the Company's Office in Sueded Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco. For further information as to Passage and Freight apply to the Agent of the Company, No. 5, Queen's Road Central, F. E. FOSTER, Gen. Agent for China & Japan, Hongkong, February 7, 1882. mrl

Occidental & Oriental Steam-Ship Company.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC & OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE S.S. *BEIGIC* will be despatched for San Francisco via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 11th March, 1882, at 3 p.m. Connection being made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan ports. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; and same will be received at the Company's Office, until 5 p.m. the day previous to sailing. A reduction of 25% made on all RETURN PASSAGE ORDERS ISSUED. Consular Invoices to accompany Overland Cargo, should be sent to the Company's Office addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco. For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central, CHAS. H. HASWELL, Jr., Agent, Hongkong, February 16, 1882. mrl

YACHT & PICNIC SUPPLIES.

CALIFORNIA RACKER.

COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb tins, and loose.

Alphabetical B.I.S. OUTS.

Fancy Sweet Mixed BISCUITS.

Ginger CAKES.

Soda BISCUITS.

Oyster BISCUITS.

Cracked WHEAT.

OATMEAL.

HOMINY.

CORNMEAL.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.

RYE MEAL.

Specially Selected CIGARS.

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in 5 and 10 catty boxes.

BREAKFAST CONGOU @ 25 cents p. lb.

SHIPHANDLERY of every Description.

RIGGING and SAIL-MAKING promptly executed.

Hongkong, January 25, 1882.

Entertainment.

POSTPONEMENT.

PROFESSOR RUCHWALDY has to apologize for having through ignorance arranged his OPENING PERFORMANCE for the Evening of CONGRATULATIONS New Year's Day. It will for the convenience of the Public, be POSTPONED till MONDAY, the 20th instant. Tickets which have already been purchased will be available for MONDAY. Hongkong, February 16, 1882. fe18

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL.

MONDAY, 20th February, 1882.

GRAND MAGICAL MUSICAL, OPTICAL AND COMICAL PERFORMANCE, GIVEN BY PROFESSOR RUCHWALDY.

Professor RUCHWALDY, the late Wizard of the North, with his THREE WONDERFUL CHILDREN S. N. L., 5, 7 and 9 years old. TRIO, DUO AND SOLO.

MUSIC, VOCAL AND COMIC.

THE INDIAN MAIL.

THE VOYAGE THROUGH THE AIR.

THE SIAM FLUTE.

OCCARINO!!!

THE DELHI CHAFOT!!!

For Particulars see HANDBILLS.

Prices of Admission: Dress Circle and Stalls, Two Dollars. Pit, One Dollar.

Tickets to be had from Messrs KELLY & WALSH, and at the Doors on the Night of Performance.

Doors open at 8.00 p.m.; Performance to commence at 9 p.m., precisely.

VIVAT REGINA.

Hongkong, February 16, 1882. fe21

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The undersigned, Agents of the above Company, are authorized to insure against FIRE at Current Rates.

GILMAN & Co., Hongkong, January 1, 1882.

To-day's Advertisements.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Co's Steamship "Deception," Captain Fitch, will be despatched at Noon TO-MORROW, the 18th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents, Hongkong, February 17, 1882. fe18

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co's Steamship "Yangtze," Commandant LORMIER, will be despatched for SHANGHAI shortly after arrival from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent, Hongkong, February 17, 1882.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Co's Steamship "Tonic," Commandant DUBOIS, will be despatched for YOKOHAMA shortly after the arrival of the next French Mail from Europe.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX, Agent, Hongkong, February 17, 1882.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, should sufficient inducement offer, and taking through Cargo, to NEW ZEALAND.)

The Eastern and Australian Steamship Coy.'s Steamer "Memur" will be despatched as above on or about SATURDAY, the 11th March.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents, Hongkong, February 17, 1882.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, PIANO, BILLIARD TABLE, &c., &c.

The undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on WEDNESDAY, the 22nd February, 1882, at 2 p.m., at his Sales Rooms, Peddar's Wharf Buildings, THE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., &c., &c.

Of a Gentleman leaving the Colony, consisting of—ESSEL'S MARK CHERRY-COVERED DRAWING ROOM SUITE, OTCOMY, MIRRORS, WARDROBES, CUPBOARD AND SIDE TABLES, GRAND PIANO by BROADWOOD & SONS; MARGOLY'S DINING TABLE, TEAK SIDEBOARD, GLASS, CHINA, and PLATED WARE, CUTLERY, MARBLE-TOP WARDROBE STANDS, WARDROBES, BEDSTEADS, &c., &c.

Also, A CAROM BILLIARD TABLE.

Catalogues will be issued previous to the Sale.

Terms—As customary.

G. R. LAMBERT, Auctioneer, Hongkong, February 17, 1882. fe22

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

A. M. STURSON, American ship, Capt. A. Cull, Jr.—Master.

AGUETTE, French barque, Capt. Bernard.—Messageries Maritimes.

BRAZON, American barque, Captain G. Williams.—Messageries Maritimes.

CALOHA, American barque, Capt. Nuyes.—Rosario & Co.

DEVONSHIRE, British steamer, Capt. A. Purvis.—Russell & Co.

EDWIN REED, American barque, Capt. J. C. Gilmore.—Order.

H. W. DUDLEY, American barque, Capt. D. W. Dudley.—Order.

HUSKINS, British ship, Captain J. Belyea.—Russell & Co.

IMPORTER, American ship, Capt. C. H. Alynne.—Messageries Maritimes.

LAUREL, British barque, Captain J. Grassman.—Melchers & Co.

LENNOX, British steamer, Capt. D. Scott.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

NELLIE M. SLADE, Amer. 3-m. schooner, Capt. Gould.—Melchers & Co.

SARADA, American ship, Captain Benjamin Carver.—Adams, Bell & Co.

PANAY, American ship, Captain S. P. Bray, Jr.—Adams, Bell & Co.

SVEN, American ship, Captain G. W. Brown.—Douglas Laprak & Co.

W. J. ROTCH, American ship, Captain Geo. L. Bray.—Master.

WARRFIELD, American barque, Capt. W. S. Crovill.—Captain.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Feb. 17, *Deception*, British steamer, 1346, T. Purvis, Shanghai Feb. 14, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.Feb. 17, *Phœnix*, German steamer, from Canton.Feb. 17, *Vigilant*, H. M. despatch vessel, from Canton.

DEPARTURES.

Feb. 17, *Norfolk*, for Shanghai.17, *Sumatra*, for Kobe, &c.17, *Nippon*, for Shanghai.17, *Thénis*, French covrt., for Saigon.17, *Benedicta*, for Tientsin.17, *Euphrates*, for Yokohama.17, *Mindanao*, for Manila.17, *Paladin*, for Saigon.17, *Kewangan*, for Coast Ports.

CLEARED.

Hindostan, for San Francisco.*Java Pocket*, for Singapore.*Primus*, for Manila.

Twilight, for New York.

Leurel, for Hamburg.*Mimosa*, for Tientsin.*Dale*, for Bangkok.*Deception*, for London, &c.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sumatra*, for Kobe, &c., Mr. Ho, and 2 Steerage.Per *Norfolk*, for Shanghai, 1 European.Per *Nippon*, for Shanghai, 1 European, and 60 Chinese.Per *Mindanao*, for Manila, 2 Europeans.Per *Paladin*, for Saigon, 12 Chinese.Per *Kewangan*, for Coast Ports, 2 Europeans, and 200 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per *Primus*, for Manila, 1 European.Per *Dale*, for Bangkok, 10 Chinese.Per *Deception*, for London, 1 European.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Deception* reports: Variable winds and thick weather all the passage.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS will close:—

For AMOY, TAMSUI, and TAIWAN.—Per *Albany*, at 11.30 a.m., on Tuesday, the 21st inst.For NAGASAKI and YOKOHAMA.—Per *Sumatra*, at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, the 21st inst.For STRAITS and BOMBAY.—Per *Malacca*, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 25th inst., instead of as previously notified.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKER.

The British Contract Packet *Thibet* will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 21st February, with Mails to and through the United Kingdom and Europe, to Brindisi; to the Straits Settlements, Batavia, Borneo, Ceylon, India, Aden, Mauritius, Egypt, Malta, and Gibraltar.

N.B.—This Packet carries no mails for the Australian Colonies.

HOURS OF CLOSING.

The following hours are observed in closing Mails, &c., by the British Contract Packet:—

Day of Departure.

Noon.—Money Order Office closes.

2 p.m.—Registry of Letters closes. Posting of all printed matter and registered cases.

3 p.m.—Mail closed, except for Late Letters.

3.10 p.m.—Letters may be posted with Late Fee of 10 cents until.

3.30 p.m.—When the Post Office closes entirely.

3.40 p.m.—Late Letters may be posted on board the packet with Late Fee of 10 cents until time of departure.

General Memoranda.

TUESDAY, February 21:—

Noon.—*Albany* leaves for Amoy, &c.

4 p.m.—English Mail leaves for Ports of Call and Europe.

WEDNESDAY, February 22:—

Noon.—*Hindostan* leaves for Australian Ports, via Tokyo.

2 p.m.—Auction of Household Furniture, &c., at Mr. G. R. Lambert's.

3 p.m.—Meeting of Shareholders of The China Fire Insurance Co., Limited, at 39, Queen's Road.

6 p.m.—Meeting of Victoria Lodge.

THURSDAY, February 23:—

Goods per *Albany* undelivered after this date subject to rent.

MEMOS. FOR TO-MORROW.

Examiner of Salt Department, 稅務大使 312
Examiner of Tea and Salt Department, 鹽茶大使 313
Customs Examiner, 稅課大使 314
官課大使 315

Manchu Military Organization, 將軍 426
Tartar General, 將軍 426

Chinese Army—
General in Chief, 提督 440
The shape of the *yan* is square; it varies in size according to the status of the official holding it; the characters on it are in the Seal character.

(3.) 鈴記 K'm Ki, used by—
Department Police Master and Jail Warden, 吏目 287

Sub-District Deputy Magistrate, 巡檢 293

District Police Magistrate & Jail Warden, 典史 294

Director of Studies, 教授 303

Director of Studies, 學正 303

Director of Studies, 學正 303

Sub-director of Studies, 訓導 306

River Police Inspector, 河泊所 318

Postmaster, 驛丞 319

Stitch Keeper, 官官 320

Police Inspector (in a Prefecture), 校校 321

Chinese Army—
Lieutenant, 千總 447

Sergeant, 把總 448

Second Sergeant, 外委千總 449

Corporal, 外委把總 450

Lease Corporal, 額外外委 457

This seal is oblong and the characters on it are written in the 楷書. Its size varies according to the rank of the holder.

(4.) 戳記 Ch'ueh Ki, held by very small officials such as the writers of petitions in a *yamen* (代書, 代保) (中保). Gentry in charge of train band board. It is oblong in shape. If, for example, the Nam-hoi Magistrate issued a Ch'ueh-ki to a *ti-pò*, it would have the following characters in the 楷書 on either side: 某南海縣正堂 發給地保某名戳記; in the centre grass characters, such as 清慎勤 or 生清廉.

(5.) 圖章 T'ao Ch'ung, used by ordinary persons such as traders, literatures, &c. The latter use two seals when they write scrolls, fans, &c., for friends—one with the writer's name and surname; the other with his style 別字. A seal is also sometimes used at the end of a letter, and on an envelope to prevent its being opened. This is called 護封圖章. The shape of the T'ao Ch'ung is square or oblong, and the writing on it either in the ordinary hand or seal character. Seals are always vermilion with the exception of that of the Governor General and Governor, which is of a colour called 紫標. When there is rational mourning blue of course is the colour used.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

[RECEIVED BY THE "CHINA MAIL"]

(Per E. E. A. & Co. Telegraph Co.'s Line.)

THE ROYAL ADDRESS VOTED.

London, Feb. 15.

The House of Commons voted the address in reply to the Royal message after a long debate, by 87 to 22 votes.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The *Enrolment* may be expected to arrive here, per P. and O. steamer *Bangalore*, on or about Sunday, 19th inst. She brings London dates to the 13th January.

To-morrow being Chinese New Year's day, there will be no publication of the *China Mail*.

We hear there is a strong probability that H. E. the Governor will leave the Colony as early as Tuesday next, by the *English Mail*.

The *Thémis*, French flag-ship on the station, left the harbour this morning bound for Saigon. The usual salutes were given. The Governor went on board to bid Adm. Dupard good-bye.

The damp weather tends to prove the correctness of the Hon. F. B. Johnson's remarks concerning the roads of the Colony, and the proportionate incorrectness of those lately made by H. E. the Governor.

Tax agents (Messrs Gibb Livingston & Co.) inform us that the E. & A. S. S. Co. S. S. *Manoir* left Cockburn on 15th inst., and is due in Hongkong on or about 3rd March. The E. & A. S. S. Co. S. S. *Tanwadee* is to leave Sydney on the 18th inst., and is due here on or about the 12th March.

The *Kowloon* barracks seem to be a mark for many of the thieves in the Colony. To-day Ngai Im was charged before, and sentenced by, Dr Stewart to twenty-one days' imprisonment for stealing six pounds of beef from these barracks. The only defence he had to give was that he wished the beef for food.

The Post Office will be wholly closed to-morrow, and no deliveries will take place,

unless the Shanghai or English Mail should arrive. These will be delivered at the windows, which will be kept open for an hour for that purpose. Correspondence not called for will be sent out on Sunday morning. No mail lists will be issued.

The Superintendent of the Great Northern Telegraph Company informs us that a temporary connection has been formed with Shanghai, and that all messages for that port, Japan, &c., have gone forward. At present Amoy is out of circuit, but it is expected that the cable will be entirely repaired this evening.

There is no further necessity for exercising extra vigilance at the godowns at Wanchai; the greater part of the inflammable material having been now removed. The most of the beams are still in a very touchy condition, and every precaution will have to be taken to prevent them coming down. It would be much better if they were immediately hauled down, as any chance of an accident would then be impossible. The coals ceased work this afternoon; and all the junks have taken their departure. There will very likely be nothing more done towards removing the material until Monday, or later, when the Chinaman will have come back to his normal state of mind.

An Inquest was held this afternoon (17th) at the Government Civil Hospital, before the Coroner, H. E. Weddell, Esq., and the following gentlemen as jurors: Messrs E. J. Hughes, Q. J. Gutierrez, and G. Waghorn, on the body of a Chinaman, who was found hanging in a garden at Pok-fu-lam. The medical evidence showed that the body had been hanging there for some time, and it was only through the luck of attention being drawn to it by the stench that the discovery was made. Acting Sergeant Hill, stationed at Pok-fu-lam, said no information could be gained about the deceased, and no one had been, as far as his enquiries extended, missed in the neighbourhood. The jury returned an unanimous verdict of death through strangulation.

THERE will embark on board the troopship *Tyne* (Commander J. Stokes) to-morrow, Saturday, two detachments of the first battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who this month completed three years' stay in the Colony. One of the detachments, numbering 5 officers and 168 non-commissioned officers and men, proceeded to Penang; the other, Major D. M. Taylor, Capt. T. M. G. Thackery, Lieutenants A. M. Goodrich, A. J. Murray, and A. J. Lawford. The other and larger detachment, numbering 5 officers and 243 non-commissioned officers and men, goes to Singapore; there are also 15 women and 28 children; the officers who go with this detachment are: Captain Philip Stainforth (also Mrs. Stainforth); Capt. J. A. Bennett, Lieut. R. C. G. Cox, A. A. Graves, and J. G. Mayne. The *Tyne* will remain at Singapore for a fortnight, then bring on the rest of the Buffs to Hongkong, returning again to Singapore with the three companies of the Inniskilling, who are at present to be left behind.

A MALICIOUS attempt at incendiarism was made early this morning on some houses at Spring Gardens. The house (No. 213), where one of the attempts was made, was occupied by Mr. J. D. Woodford on the upper story, and by two gentlemen, as boarders, on the lower flat. Shortly after six o'clock this morning one of these gentlemen was awakened by hearing some noise. On looking closely he found that one of the windows of a room occupied by Mr. Woodford as an office was on fire. With the assistance of his fellow-boarder, after breaking through the partition which divided their apartments from the office, he managed to put out the flames, which on inspection proved to have originated from a piece of tweed cloth steeped in paraffin having been affixed to the woodwork of the window. The inmates, as would be supposed, were rather alarmed, and no sooner had their alarm somewhat subsided than it was again aroused by the tenant of house No. 223, which is also in the possession of Mr. Woodford, calling their attention to that house where a similar attempt had been made. The intention of the incendiaries was apparently to burn down the whole block, and the most strenuous efforts should be made to secure them. No apprehensions up to now have been made. The back of the houses, it may be mentioned, join on to the hill side and easy access had been thus obtained.

A CASE of a peculiar nature was brought before Dr Stewart this morning, in which Samuel Simons, German, on board the British steamer *Gleniffer*, was charged with cutting and wounding James Whitley Simons whilst the ship was lying at the Tanjong Pagar wharf at Singapore on the 5th inst. It seems from the evidence heard that the defendant, who had been working some time extra, had been asked by the chief engineer, the complainant, to turn to again, when defendant used some indecent language, with the result that complainant struck him on the mouth. Defendant had then struck complainant with a knife, and wounded him slightly on the shoulder. Defendant, in his statement, admitted having done so, but said he went ashore and intended to deliver himself up to the police, but as it was a holiday in Singapore, it was advised that the case should be brought on here and tried.

The Captain of the *Gleniffer* said that on the way up he allowed the defendant, on a promise to behave properly, to return to his work, and he had conducted himself very well. The case was discharged through want of jurisdiction.

For some time back a system of smart swindling has been carried on against some of the principal European stores in the Colony. The method adopted was rather an ingenious one, viz., to send china to European stores requesting them to send by certain supplies. The signatures which have been used, as far as we can learn, are those of Mr. J. H. Cox, Mr. G. Holmes, and Mrs. Thomsen. The word "bearer" has always been written "bearer," "yours truly" has been converted into "yours truly," and Mr. Holmes' signature, which is usually G. Holmes, was written G. Holmes. Mr. Cox's signature was remarkably well done. The third signature was transformed into "Mrs. Thomsen." Two Chinamen called at Messrs Lane Crawford's to-day, one in the morning and the other, who was caught, in the forenoon. This innocent personage was according to his own statement merely a jiu-chienka coolie, who had been employed by some other individual to get the goods. Mr. Fournier has also lately had a considerable run on butter, and one of the last chits he got, purporting to be signed by Mr. J. H. Cox, was an order for some bacon, Florida water, and butter. It is thought that the party who has been providing at so light expense for his new year's dinner will shortly have to put up with fewer dainties.

A REMOVAL is current that a telegram has been received from Nagsaki announcing that the anti-progressive party in Korea has taken up arms, and broken out into rebellion under the leadership of Dai in Kian. The headquarters of the rebels is said to be Toraifu. *Courier*.

THE inauguration of the Tramway from Saigon to the Chinese town (Cholon) took place a few days since. The average passengers is about 2500 persons per day. This is a good commencement and the prospects are that the venture will be remunerative. *Siam Advertiser*.

THE death of cholera of Lady Ferguson, and of her niece, Miss Richmond, has aroused considerable scientific and general interest as to the etiology of that fatal disease. "Both Lady Ferguson and Miss Richmond," says the *Times of India*, "were living at Government House, Paris, when the former was attacked; and were naturally closely associated together and subjected to much the same local influences. Lady Ferguson was attacked on the morning of Saturday, the 7th instant, and Miss Richmond, who had been with her up to that time, was at once sent away from Paris to Malabar Point. Miss Richmond subsequently proceeded to Funn, and was attacked there on Saturday, the 14th instant. There was thus an interval of just seven days between the two seizures. It follows, therefore, that while on the supposition of infection, the circumstances would demand a period of incubation of seven days for the disease in the case of Miss Richmond, they would demand a difference of seven days between the periods of incubation in the two cases, an alternative supposition that both seizures were the result of a common cause, Science knows nothing certain regarding either the minimum or the maximum period of incubation of the disease, but we believe there is nothing in past experience to make it violently improbable that a difference of seven days should exist between the two. From the numerous common influences to which Lady Ferguson and Miss Richmond were subjected at Paris, it is impossible to select any one and identify it definitively as the cause of the disease. Those, however, who incline to the water theory, will be likely to see a corroboration of their view in the circumstances that the milk which was used at Government House, and of which in all probability both the victims partook, came from the village of Paris, where cholera was prevalent before and at the time of Lady Ferguson's attack. When it is remembered that the water was drawn from Indian towns in the water, and how notoriously impure are the sources from which the water used for the purpose is taken, it is a matter for surprise that an establishment like that of Government House, Paris, should not obtain its supply of milk from some source under its own control, and this is especially true of the fact that the danger of impure milk, with reference especially to cholera, has been of late years the subject of repeated warning in the public prints."

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COY.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the thirteenth ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's office, at three o'clock p.m. on Wednesday next, the 22nd February—

The Directors have much pleasure in submitting their Annual Report, and the Statement of Accounts made up to the 31st December, 1891.

The Balance at the Credit of Work Account for this year, as per last report was \$151,029.68. Deduct Dividend of \$12 per Share paid in 1891, \$48,000.00; the Losses and Claims according to this year, \$18,389.13; and Premium returned on Policies cancelled, \$992.61, equal to \$67,381.74. Balance, \$85,647.94.

The Directors propose paying a Second Dividend of \$6 per Share, making in all \$13 per cent for the year on the paid up Capital, and carrying the Balance of \$85,647.94 to the Reserve Fund, which is thereby increased to \$493,632.24.

1891.—The Working Account for this year shows a balance of \$144,983.91, which, taking into consideration the reduction in rates introduced since the 11th May, 1891, and the increased competition, is very satisfactory. The Directors propose to pay a First Dividend of \$12 per Share as hitherto.

Directors.—Messrs A. Melver and H. L. Dalrymple retire from the Board in accordance with the Articles of Association, and offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Messrs James H. Cox and G. O. Scott have duly audited the Accounts now presented, and offer themselves for re-election.

F. RYAN, Chairman.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Acting Justice Judge.)

Friday, Feb. 17.

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO. v. VOGEL & ANR.—\$1000.
Mr. Watson, Mr. Meares Bereton and Wotton appeared for the plaintiff.
Mr. A. A. da Costa, Secretary of the Company, stated that there was over \$1000 due for freight of cargo of goods between Hongkong, Canton & Macao; but to save trouble the sum over \$1000 had been waived.

Mr. Vogel, Junr, stated that the debt was correct, but that both partners were at present in Shanghai.

His Lordship gave judgment for the amount claimed with costs.

SIXSEEN v. WAI YUNG CHUEN.—\$84.18.
Mr. Watson appeared for the plaintiff and stated that the defendant had been charged with the freight of goods against the defendant, who was partner in the Wing Wai ship, 104 Jervois Street.

The claim was admitted and his Lordship gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff with costs.

WOOD v. CHIEW SING, \$8.60.—The defendant received from the plaintiff, the Chief Engineer on board the *Yokai*, in the beginning of January last some articles of clothing to wash, but which had never been returned. They were valued at the amount claimed, but a counter claim of \$1.64 was admitted. His Lordship gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff for \$6.96, allowing the defendant the opportunity of returning the clothes within three days.

AARON v. VOGEL & ANR., \$484.30.—Mr. Watson, Mr. Meares Sharp, Toller and Johnson appeared for the plaintiff, and stated that his client was an assistant in the defendant's firm and claimed the amount due for wages. In the account filed there was a balance due of \$784.30 up to date of last year. Since then there had been an additional month's salary of \$100, and there had been a balance of \$484.30 on account, still owing a balance of \$484.30, this amount was claimed, less \$63.60, which had been paid for Mr. Aaron, in his absence at Canton on business.

Mr. Edward Vogel, said both partners of the firm were absent, but as far as he knew the account was correct.

His Lordship gave judgment in favour of the plaintiff for \$420.63, with costs.

VINCENT v. YAT CHONG PO, \$61.63.—His Honour gave judgment on this case for the plaintiff, as follows:—This is a claim for the loss of Rums, shipped on the plaintiff's account, from Singapore, by the *Adolph*, in April 1891.

The defendant's firm are the charterers of the vessel. The defendant's agents signed the bill of lading for 4 casks of Mauritius rum, shipped in good order and well conditioned. The plaintiff. A condition in the bill of lading is that the ship-owner is not responsible for leakage, breakage, &c. On the other hand, the Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, who was the full owner of the vessel, and two others, stated that the damage was apparently due to a fall or crush; and that part of the end stove in, and was closed up with chum. This second one had leaked 20½ gallons. The claim is made for the loss. No evidence was given by the defendant, and although the case has stood over for some time to permit the evidence of the officers to be obtained, no evidence has been got, as the ship has not been in port since the cause came on for hearing. Now, Mr. Johnson contended that this "leakage and breakage" exemption in the bill of lading exempted the shipowner from the result of damage where the shipowner had themselves superintended the stowage. It was found as a fact that a large quantity of oil had leaked from the casks because the cargo was surrounded and heated the staves and dried them so that they leaked. There was no negligence shown as against the shipowners. They were not aware of the fact that such stowage would lead to loss. In *Creek v. General Steam Navigation Co.*, L. R., 3 Q. B. 13, Chief Justice Bovill said: "The evidence in every case is that the cargo was damaged by leakage, but if the goods are damaged and no reasonable explanation of the damage can be given except the negligence of the defendants, a jury are justified in finding that such negligence is proved." In that case there was an exception in favour of the shipowners for "leakage, breakage and damage arising through negligence." There can be no doubt but a clause exempting from "leakage and breakage" the carrier from a liability which the law places upon him, if there was no such act. It throws the onus of proof on the shipowner. It is in *Byrne v. Boadle*, and *Scott v. The London Dock Co.*, 34 L. J. Exch. 17. (See judgment of Baron Pigott).

In this case, which was an injury caused by the falling of some bags of sugar from a crane on a Custom-house officer, Pigott B. said: "It is prima facie the result of some negligence, and for these reasons I think it is a question for the jury, and that the defendants should be called upon to explain how the injury happened to be inflicted." In this case, acting as a juror, I infer as a fact that the rum casks were improperly or negligently stowed or handled—which is the only reasonable explanation of the leakage leading to this leakage.

The fact that the rum casks were damaged by leakage, and that the defendant was the carrier of the rum, places upon him, if there was no such act, the onus of proof. It is in *Byrne v. Boadle*, and *Scott v. The London Dock Co.*, 34 L. J. Exch. 17. (See judgment of Baron Pigott).

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facts of the case, and that the winning party is generally entitled to costs he would award costs to that party.

Mr. Maclean was then granted leave to appeal to Her Majesty in Council.

China.

(N. C. Daily News.)

Private letters from America by last mail state that a fire had occurred in New York, in which twenty thousand half-cents of tea were destroyed.

A Chinese official, who is deep in the confidence of Li Hung-chang, recently purchased ten thousand mow of land for the purpose of opium cultivation. We commend this fact to the consideration of the Anti-opium Society at home, and those who sympathise with it in China.

We have received private information from North with respect to the Opium trade in China, and the Chinese authorities have made a new demand, namely, that the import duty on the Indian drug be paid, not on each shipment as it comes in, but in a lump sum yearly in advance. The British Minister is said to have replied that before agreeing to such a proposal as that it would be necessary to refer it to the Home and Indian Governments. It is clear that the receipt of duties by the Chinese themselves, without foreign intervention, would deprive the Customs service of a very large income; seven-and-a-half per cent being, we believe, the deduction at present allowed by the Imperial Government to the Customs for collections for the working expenses of the staff. It is possible, from what we hear, that the full duty may be placed at a lower figure than the one mentioned by our Tientsin Correspondent on the Revision negotiations; but it seems also possible that the negotiations may virtually fall through.

(Continued.)

The barque *Black Diamond*, which has been reported as having been towed up to the upper section this morning (16th) by one of the Tug Boat Association's boats. A fire, originating in the fall of one of the stage lamps, occurred in the *Saravaka* Theatre at Anauks, Tokyo, at half-past five o'clock on the evening of the 23rd ult. Great confusion immediately took place, and the audience, who were packed in their endeavours to make their escape. So far no loss of life has been reported; but many persons were seriously injured, and the building is in ruins, having, with about forty adjoining tenements, been burned to the ground. The conflagration lasted for little over an hour only.

IS THE FAMILY IN DANGER?

(Daily Mail Budget.)

The family is the corner-stone of civilization, but according to some acute observers it is at present in no small danger of destruction. Mr. Goldwin Smith sees in the spread of the Woman's Rights movement a danger to the essential institution of society, which in time, if Lord Salisbury is wise, may secure for him the support of the brilliant professor. On the other hand, the Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, who has been a strict adherent of the old faith, has been reported: "So far no loss of life has been reported; but many persons were seriously injured, and the building is in ruins, having, with about forty adjoining tenements, been burned to the ground. The conflagration lasted for little over an hour only."

Mr. Goldwin Smith's dread of divorce, maintains that the tendency of the Woman's Rights movement is exactly opposite to that which Mr. Smith attributes to it. It stands to reason that any movement strengthening the power and influence of women in society will naturally tend to strengthen the institution of marriage, and, therefore, women are most interested. These, however, are but speculations, and the important thing to note is that both writers agree in deploring an incontestable fact—a growing laxity in America concerning the marriage tie.

A writer in the *Century*, looking not so much to the tendencies of theories as to the record of statistics, comes to a similar conclusion as to the facts. In the United States, says the latter observer, "it cannot be denied that the permanence of the family is seriously threatened." Roman Catholics declare that their Church is the only effective barrier to the destruction of the family by Christianity, and, in fact, the family has not been so seriously endangered since the Reformation. We quoted some months ago statistics which are reproduced in the *Century* concerning the increase of divorce in the New England States, which seem to show that the movement of society towards the substitution of contract for status is making rapid progress across the Atlantic. Without being so far a very precise statement as to the facts, it is not too much to say that the family is being legally and theoretically dissolved into its individual elements, it is evident that the theory of the indissolubility of marriage is losing ground. As the writer says, with a characteristic touch, "the ways that lead out of wedlock are numerous and broad, and many there be that find them." The broad path in this case is "leadeth to destruction." The movement from status to contract, instead of being in his eyes the normal evolution of the highest social order, is "a temporary reaction towards social anarchy and corruption."

In his opinion, "the well-worn changes by which the grip of the old marriage laws has been gradually loosened have produced on the whole more domestic unhappiness than they have prevented." Such, however, does not seem to be the general opinion, and it may be noted as a sign of the times, whether for encouragement or for warning, that an English lady within the last few days has written to her husband, a respectable firm of London publishers, to publish a very earnest plea for a reform of the marriage laws, hardly, if at all, distinguishable from the substitution of a contract marriage by consent for the old-established union where a wedded pair were joined until death did them part. In England, however, we are still far behind the United States, especially in the States of New England. We have only one petition for

